

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides a zoom lens system suitable for an image gathering system using a solid-state imaging device, having a zoom ratio of about 5 three, a small lens length, and superb optical performance. The zoom lens system includes, in order from an object, a first lens group having negative refractive power, a second lens group having positive refractive power, and a third lens group having 10 positive refractive power. The first lens group consists only of a negative lens and a positive lens. The second lens group includes at least two positive lenses and at least one negative lens. The third lens group consists of one lens. Zooming from a wide-angle 15 end state to a telephoto end state is conducted by decreasing a distance between the first and second lens groups, increasing a distance between the second and third lens groups, and fixing the third lens group. Given conditions are satisfied.